

The Spirit

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Callie Crossley Addresses Students and Faculty

Woodrow Wilson Fellow discusses Activism in the 21st Century

By Samantha Saines, Carlos Pimental, Christina Contessa

This year's visiting Woodrow Wilson Fellow has a broad and extensive resume to go with her animated personality and powerful message that she brings to public and private campuses nationwide.

Callie Crossley is best known as producer/director of the Emmy Award-winning series, "Eyes of the Prize" which presented one of the most tumultuous periods in American History: the Civil Rights movement.

"Eyes on the Prize" traced through visual images and eyewitness accounts, the progress of the Civil Rights movement from Brown vs. Board of Education (1954) to the Civil Rights Act of 1965 under the Lyndon Johnson administration.

Ms. Crossley began contributing to "Eyes on the Prize" as a historical researcher/journalist. She emphasized that the civil rights movement had no single "turning point" event. But rather, "They were a series of

connected layered events that led up to Brown—and the reactions that exploded following the ruling of the Supreme Court.

"This is an American Story in which average individuals stood up for what they believed in and tested the law," she said.

Ms. Crossley traced her career beginning with jobs at local television media programs in Memphis, Tennessee to a Boston non-commercial news show to her current role as a contributor to "Beat the Press," a Boston commentary show on media in America.

Currently, Ms. Crossley feels that the movement has changed. She feels that the focus has shifted and that the new generation must take a stand on racial issues and other issues affecting young people.

What she feels is lacking in our society today is a basic dialogue amongst differing racial groups.

"We must have essential conversations about race," she said. "By

doing this, both young people and older generations alike can help to break the boundaries that keep us silent concerning these crucial issues," she added.

While reluctant to identify any single "big issue" that faces the country today, Ms. Crossley did say that health care is going to be a problem that will inundate America in the near future as our population becomes older.

She sees at the core of the health care problem, the fact that too many Americans are turned away when they need information, and do not have the skills to navigate a bureaucracy that even its own administrators cannot figure out.

"But by creating conversations and using creativity to solve problems, we can all do our share. In other words, each one can do something," she said.

When asked what she considers to be her "Dream Project," Ms.



Callie Crossley answers questions from editors of *The Spirit*

Crossley said that someday she would like to have her own talk show on television or radio.

As both a regular on-air personality on National Public Radio and a producer on network television's 20/20, she has the experience in front of and behind the camera to

achieve that end.

After a morning's interview with the editorial staff of *The Spirit*, Ms. Crossley met with small groups of students in classes and then spoke to the student body and faculty as a group in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall.



Rosa Parks' historic Birmingham bus ride



Urban Bush Women performing during common hour

St. Joseph's Introduces New Series on Social Justice

Full schedule of events highlights theme

The Spirit Staff

Forget the ponderous title, "In Pursuit of Social Justice." The reality is quite different. What has come to St. Joseph's for the spring semester is a dynamic and culturally rich program of events that explores various aspects of the theme of social justice, progress, and equality in the United States.

A joint effort of the Arts Council, the Office of Student Services, the Library, S. Margaret Buckley, several academic departments, CAB and UA, the program includes art exhibitions, lectures, dance demonstrations, author readings and other events geared to the theme of Social Justice.

The series began on January 19th with an art exhibition in the Alumni Room Gallery of Tuohy Hall entitled "From Darkness to Light, Please Touch," created by Holocaust survivor and Brooklyn resident, Frederick Terna. Terna's works can be found in the Smithsonian Institute, the Albertina Collection in Vienna, and the Museum of the Yad Vashem in Israel.

This was followed by Professor Raymond D'Angelo's lecture in the Faculty Seminar Series entitled

"Rosa Parks and the Politics of Image," which was presented during common hour on February 1st.

February 15th saw the Urban Bush Women doing a dance lecture presentation in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall during common hour. The dance troupe explores the use of cultural expression as a catalyst for social change. Their dances are based upon women's experiences and African-American history.

An art exhibition entitled "Images of Social Justice: Small Works, Big Heart" will be presented from February 21-March 30 in the Alumni Room of Tuohy Hall. The work of local artists who have dealt with the theme of social justice will be displayed in this exhibition.

Visiting Woodrow Wilson Fellow Callie Crossley, producer of the acclaimed "Eyes on the Prize," will address the student body and faculty during common hour and discuss civil rights in selected classes on the Brooklyn campus.

Also included in the series will be the annual C.O.O.L. idealist National Conference in Nashville,

Tennessee attended by SJC students.

"Sound Bites" will also be part of the series. The Thursday, March 30 session will be narrated by Professor David Seppala-Holtzman of the Mathematics Department. The topic of the discussion will be "Guilty Before the Crime: How Far Should We Go to Protect Society." Students, faculty and staff members come together during Sound Bites for an open forum and exchange of ideas.

Rounding out the series will be a final art exhibit entitled "When Women Pursue Justice." The exhibit, in the Alumni Gallery of Tuohy Hall, will contain materials on the creation of the outdoor mural located near SJC at Greene Street and Nostrand Avenue—a 74 foot wide by 45 foot high mural dedicated to Shirley Chisholm. The mural celebrates 90 women leaders and activists.

Under the overall direction of Stacey Temple, Chairperson of the Council for the Arts, the multi-faceted program will draw together students, faculty, artists and other notable personages for the exploration of ideas, the very lifeblood of any college.

EDITORIAL

AMERICA: POLES AND POLES APART

On June 16, 1858, Abraham Lincoln accepted the Republican nomination for the Senate from the state of Illinois. In accepting the nomination, he delivered a landmark speech which contained the famous phrase, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." How prophetic Lincoln was, and how apropos those words were—for the present era as well as his own troubled time.

There is no use sugarcoating it: America today is, in reality, *two Americas*. We are indeed, a house divided, and we divide neatly along an entire spectrum of lines.

We live in either Red State or Blue State America. There is no middle ground. Few Republicans will cross party lines out of consideration for what is best for America—and the same can be said for Democrats. Witness the almost predictable party line vote in committee and then on the Senate floor for the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito.

We live in an America that has a loud and very vocal Religious Right—and an equally loud and vocal Radical Left. Once again, there seems to be no middle ground, no place where more rational minds can meet and hammer out differences.

We live in an America where (if you listen to talk radio), you either swear by Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity on the Conservative Right, or by Al Franken and Janeane Garofalo on the Liberal Left. There is not mere disagreement between these two factions—there is blind, almost virulent hatred of one another.

Those who read the *New York Post* are branded as neanderthals by the intelligentsia. Those who read the *New York Times* are seen as intellectual snobs who are so liberal so as to be regarded as little more than Communists and Socialists in disguise.

We live in an America which offers endless opportunity—and yet we are a nation of haves and have-nots, a nation where one class of people shoulders a disproportionate amount of the tax burden, while the underclasses have but limited chance to achieve economic stability.

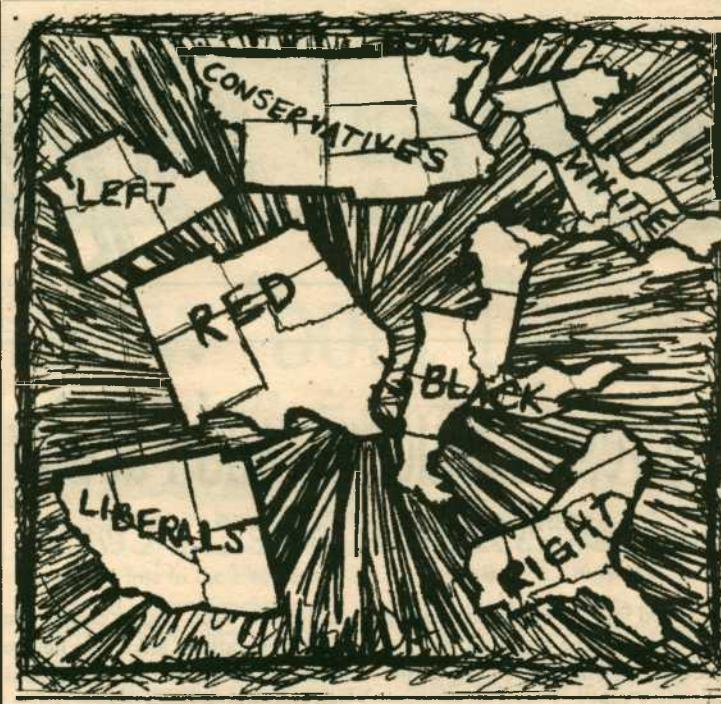
It is more than just a question of tax breaks for the rich, or entitlement programs for the poor. It is the fundamental joy that politicians take in making much of those class distinctions for purely political reasons. We live in a nation of pro-war/pro-Bush citizenry, and anti-war/anti-Bush citizenry, a nation of Black vs. White, Muslim vs. Jew, pro-life vs. pro-choice.

With such polarization in our society, perhaps the miracle is that we have lasted *this* long. With politicians showing no willingness to do the right thing, because it will jeopardize one or another segments of their constituency, how can we expect America to thrive in the century to come?

In 1796, President George Washington in his Farewell Address warned his countrymen of the insidious effect of partisan politics—how it could easily destroy the nation. He had already witnessed how divisiveness between Federalists and Whigs was keeping America from working together for common goals.

So 210 years ago, our first president knew in his heart that political parties could be the bugaboo of the infant country. A mere 62 years later, Lincoln would crusade for unity and resolution of our differences.

Pretty smart fellows, Washington and Lincoln. If only we could learn from them, we might not live in a bi-polar America, but in one nation, under God and indivisible.



United States of America?



Talking Points

By Christina Contessa

Movies and Movie Makers Make Me Mad

This year, one of my New Year's resolutions was to stop bashing movie stars in this column. It's tough, but I'll try.

Yet, I have to complain about something and it's possible that you feel the same way too.

I was very disappointed when I went to the movies over the Christmas vacation and during intercession. Virtually all of the movies that have been coming out for general viewing have been slammed with bad reviews and I can honestly see why this is the case.

I don't know what's wrong with the production companies, distributors, writers or directors these days, but in my opinion, the quality is just not there anymore.

On movie in particular that I saw was *Fun With Dick and Jane*, a remake of the 1970s film that starred Jane Fonda and George Segal. This remake starred the very funny Jim Carrey, one of the top physical comics of this generation.

The film is supposed to be making fun of the Enron and World-Com scandals—crooked CEOs, corporate accountants who cook the books, and even the whistle blowers who try to make sure that everyone in the end gets what they deserve.

Extreme disappointment hit me when Carrey and his co-star Tea

Leoni were robbing a coffee shop to survive after a corporate shake-up.

The movie left a lot to be desired. I expected a lot more from Jim Carrey and felt that he had simply phoned in his performance.

Yet, I still believe that he is a comic genius and should keep on making funny movies. But for pete's sake—before you commit to a film, read the script! Make sure that it makes the best use of your talents before you take the role.

Another movie that could generously be called dreadful was *Tristan and Isolde*. The movie's tag line was, "Before Romeo and Juliet, there was Tristan and Isolde."

Customers must have thought, "Oh, this is going to be a great love story—just like Romeo and Juliet." Wrong. The movie is more about war and heartache than love.

The medieval tale of Tristan and Isolde exists in several different versions, and indeed, it is one of the world's great love stories. So why do writers have to monkey with it?

I am often shocked at the arrogance of Hollywood writers who think they can do better than the original authors with a story. Consider the riotously bad version of *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*! As if the greatest work of the middle ages needed jazzing up by some

Hollywood hack!

Or the equally laughable *Troy*! Take the gods and goddesses out of *The Iliad* and all you have is a showcase for Brad Pitt's buff body—but don't mistake it for Homeric epic.

Is it any wonder that so many new movies are tragic disappointments—or that Hollywood is experiencing its worst financial year in decades?

Who in the world wants to pay \$10.50 for junk when you can rent a film from NetFlix or Blockbuster Online—and buy your own popcorn for a fraction of the price that a movie house charges.

Even when it's not Oscar season, directors and producers should try to make an effort to put their audiences foremost in their minds. I wonder if they ever bother to figure out what the average viewer really wants to see.

Sales stink? Audiences are staying away in droves? All those Harvard MBA corporate types ought to have enough intelligence to figure out why.

In case they don't, I will help them out by paraphrasing a tag line from a successful film of years back:

"If you give them quality, they will come!"

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THE SPIRIT

St. Joseph's College
 245 Clinton Avenue
 Brooklyn, N.Y. 11205

ADVISER

Dr. Howard B. Weiner

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

Christina Ament

Tara Vafiadou

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Christina Contessa

ARTS EDITOR

Erin Dorso

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Svetlana Medvedeva

TECHNICAL EDITOR

Robert Marriello

MUSIC EDITOR

John Castaldo

SPORTS EDITOR

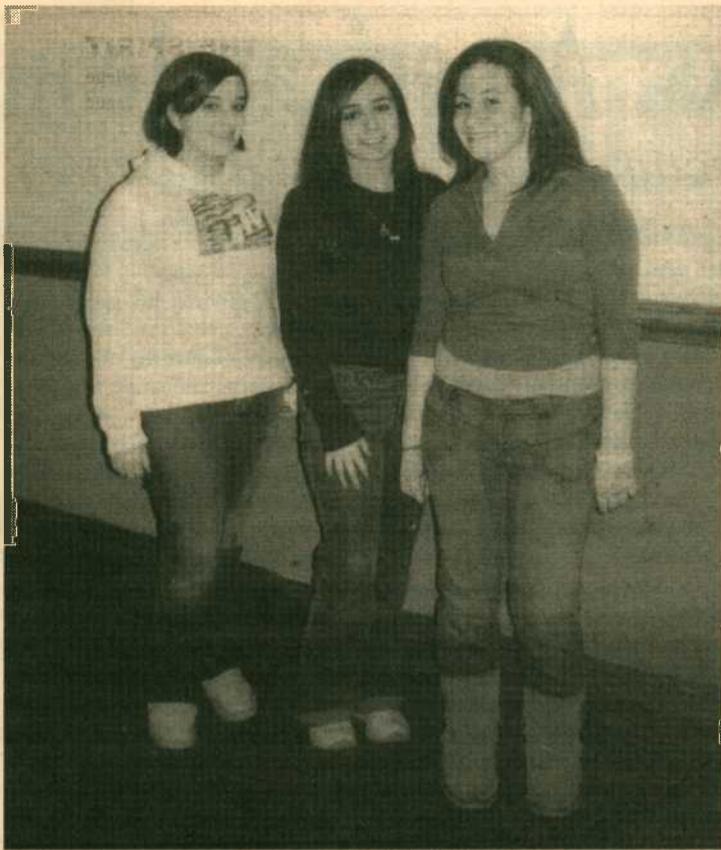
Mark Wilson

REPORTERS

Samantha Saines, Carlos Pimental,

Gurjit Singh, Svetlana Medvedeva,

John Castaldo



New editors Ashley Pucciarelli, Tara Vafiadou and Chrissy Contessa

St. Joe's Wins Marketing Award

By Tara Vafiadou

To catch more mice—build a better mousetrap. To attract more and better students to your college—design a slam-bang advertising campaign that students and their parents find irresistible.

That's just what the Office of Institutional Advancement did with their "Watch What Happens" advertising campaign, and the results have been remarkable.

For the third year in a row, St. Joseph's College has received national recognition, earning honors at the 21st Admissions Advertising Awards sponsored by the *Admissions Marketing Report*.

The college received a Merit Award for its Total Advertising Campaign which rates various aspects of an ad campaign including branding, advertising and institutional identity.

"The advertising campaign was developed to support and promote St. Joseph's innovative programs and to increase awareness of the College as a whole to the greater New York metropolitan region," said Nancy Connors, Vice-President of Institutional Advancement at St. Joseph's.

The results of the overall ad

campaign have led to a marked increase in enrollment at the Brooklyn campus. Four years ago, the incoming freshman class had 85+ students. This year's freshman class numbered close to 160 and an even larger class is anticipated for the fall of 2006.

The Admissions Advertising Awards is the largest educational advertising awards competition in the United States. The *Admissions Marketing Report* is a monthly publication which is read by nearly 4000 marketers nationally as well as by colleges and universities in America and around the world.

St. Joseph's College has been advertising regularly in publications such as *Newsday*, *The New York Times*, *The New York Daily News* and on radio stations such as WHTZ-FM (Z-100) and in education trade publications.

Janine Farraj, the Assistant to the Vice President of Enrollment Management, says of St. Joseph's ad campaign, "It is very important that you know your target audience. You have to catch their eye, get them to read further and find out more about the school. Sometimes that involves slick and creative advertising, which we seem to specialize in."

The program will be a culmination of hours of work and numerous rehearsals by the St. Joseph's College Dance Club, its twenty members, and its Moderator, Stacy Temple.

Jennifer Fatal, Willow Figueroa, Ephemia Misori, Deva Ramlal, Gurjit Singh and GraceMarie Varone are among the students currently working on pieces for the recital.

In addition to the students, faculty and guest choreographers, Miranda Ellis, Angela Rambour, Stacey Temple and Jaime Vacca are also working on performance pieces.

The overall director of the recital

self selected as the new Editor-in-Chief for 2007.

"I think this is a very important leadership position and I appreciate Dr. Weiner's trust in me. I hope to make many new friends on the staff and to have the opportunity to be creative," she said.

Speaking of creativity, Dr. Weiner is very excited about the addition of Ashley Pucciarelli to the staff of *Footprints*.

"Ashley is amazingly creative in computer graphics," said Dr. Weiner. "She has shown me things she has done that I could only dream about including in a yearbook. Now they can become realities and I think next year's yearbook will astonish anyone who looks at it," he added.

An expert at Adobe Photoshop with its myriad special effects possibilities, Ashley is also a resident of Brooklyn and a graduate of Fontbonne. She is also a Child Study major, but is considering using her skill and interest in computer graphics to explore career opportunities in that area.

"This is a great opportunity for me to showcase my work and at the same time contribute to the school," said Ashley. "Like Tara, I look forward to sharing creative ideas with staff photographers and writers to really make *Footprints 2007* something special," she added.

Also returning to the staff of *Footprints 2007* will be Assistant Edi-

tors Gurjit Singh and John Castaldo.

"I am alarmed that more members of the current junior class did not step forward and seek editorial positions on the yearbook," said Dr. Weiner. "After all, it is going to be *their* yearbook and one would think they would be interested in having some input into its content," he added.

The theme selected for *Footprints 2007* is "Changing Seasons" and preliminary photography has already begun for a book which will not be published until May of 2007!

"It takes a good fifteen months to complete a yearbook," said Dr. Weiner, "so while one book is finishing up, we already have started on the new one," he added.

Christina points out that there is still time to join the staff and there are many staff openings still available. "We never say no to anyone who wants to be a part of the staff," she said. "All any student has to do is come to Room 607 in St. Angela Hall and we will get them right to work," she added.

Dr. Weiner is delighted with the strong nucleus of his new staff, but he is quick to point out that "Yearbooks are massive undertakings. It takes more than five or six students to make them happen, so we welcome anybody who has the slightest interest in being a part of our publications."

Dance Club Readies Spring Recital

By John Castaldo

On the heels of a successful fall performance, the Dance Club will present its second recital of the year entitled *Images in Motion: Spring Scrapbook* which will take place on Thursday, April 27 during common hour and again at 7:30 PM in the Tuohy Hall auditorium.

The program will be a culmination of hours of work and numerous rehearsals by the St. Joseph's College Dance Club, its twenty members, and its Moderator, Stacy Temple.

Jennifer Fatal, Willow Figueroa, Ephemia Misori, Deva Ramlal, Gurjit Singh and GraceMarie Varone are among the students currently working on pieces for the recital.

In addition to the students, faculty and guest choreographers, Miranda Ellis, Angela Rambour, Stacey Temple and Jaime Vacca are also working on performance pieces.

The overall director of the recital

is Stacey Temple. The lighting design is by Al Roundtree.

Also making a guest appearance at both the day and night performances will be the SJC Jazz Ensemble.

"I think the audience will be delighted by the variety of dance forms presented as well as the creativity and performing capabilities of everyone involved in the concert," said Ms. Temple.

Such varied dance styles as hip-hop, tap, jazz, modern, East Indian and African will be on the program. At this time, the recital will feature eleven dance numbers, though that is subject to change as the performance date approaches.

In addition to the performance, Sr. Susan Wilcox, Director of Campus Ministries, has commissioned the Dance Club to do a work in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of St. Jo-

seph as well as the 90th anniversary of the college.

Notable about the dance recital will be the very individualistic nature of each dance.

"Each semester's dance concert is different because different students are involved and each dance that a student choreographs is so personal to them," said Ms. Temple.

The highly acclaimed fall performance was entitled, *Images in Motion: Fall Portfolio*. Ms. Temple notes the connection between the two seasonal shows.

"The spring concert gives us a chance to work and develop selected pieces from the fall," she says.

The appearance of the SJC Jazz Ensemble is becoming a tradition at the Dance Club shows and as Ms. Temple says, "Images in Motion: Spring Scrapbook promises to be a performance not to be missed."



Dance Club presents "Images in Motion"

**DON'T FORGET
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C.A.B. ELECTIONS
APRIL 5-6**



Dr. Raymond DeAngelis lectures on Rosa Parks

Term Kicks Off with Welcome Back Party

By Tara Vafiadou

Friends, food, music, clubs and contests—they were all part of St. Joseph's way of saying "Welcome back and welcome to a new year!"

On January 24, 2006, the Campus Activities Board sponsored its annual Back to School Party during common hour in the cafeteria and lounge of McEntegart Hall.

During the event, more than 200 students stopped by to participate in the various activities that made up the party.

Music was provided by DJ's from WKUT-FM who not only played a wide variety of tunes, but also acted as emcees of the event.

In particular, they hosted several games including St. Joseph's Trivia, for which prizes were awarded to those students who knew facts about the school.

"This party was a lot of fun!" said freshman Shifat Noor. "It's a good chance for us to see our friends after the break and join clubs that we weren't part of in the fall semester," he added.

Various clubs and organizations set up tables to recruit new members for the spring term in a mini 'club fair.' Included in the participating

clubs were the Gaelic Society, the Fashion Club, Publications, and the Softball and Baseball teams.

"I'm excited about starting a new semester," said freshman James Ciago. "It was a groovy party!" he added.

Of course, as is the case with virtually every St. Joe's common hour activity, there was food-a-plenty for the party goers. Cakes, cookies, hot chocolate and other beverages were consumed in prodigious quantities by the hungry revelers.

Students returned to the campus with fresh attitudes, eagerness, and some trepidation about the new term. For those who had a hankering to find out how the term would go for them, professional palm readers and tarot card readers were on hand to help them glimpse the future.

"I want to do well in all my classes and keep my GPA high," said freshman Medina Paljevic.

Blustery winter winds, grey skies and a long term lay ahead for the undergraduates of St. Joseph's College, but the Back to School Party was a way of easing the pain and showing everyone that there would be plenty of fun activities in the term to come.

**SJC JAZZ ENSEMBLE
IN CONCERT
TUESDAY, MARCH 28TH
COMMON HOUR!**

Rosa Parks: American Icon

Dr. DeAngelis Lectures on Civil Rights Leader

By Tara Vafiadou

Abraham Lincoln once characterized Harriet Beecher Stowe as "The little lady who caused the big war," because of the reaction to her *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Rosa Parks might similarly have been described as "The little lady who caused the big civil rights movement."

On October 26, 2005, an American civil rights icon was lost with the death of Rosa Parks at age 92. Her now legendary arrest for failing to move to the back of a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama, is part of American lore.

As a celebration of the significance of Rosa Parks, and as part of St. Joseph's College's *In Pursuit of Social Justice* series of special events this spring, Professor Raymond DeAngelo delivered a lecture in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall on February 1 entitled, "Rosa Parks and the Politics of Image."

A packed auditorium of students and faculty members attended the lecture and learned things about Mrs. Parks that go beyond the standard textbook description of her.

Dr. DeAngelo, chairman of the Social Sciences Department, has a particular interest in the Civil Rights movement in America. He studied at Harvard University over the summer to help bring courses on civil

rights to St. Joseph's College. He has also traveled to the south to study and has edited *The American Civil Rights Movement*.

In showing how Mrs. Parks changed the course of American history, Dr. DeAngelo noted, "Next to Martin Luther King, Jr., it is she who is most identified with civil rights."

Her impact on American society is perhaps reflected in the fact that *Time* magazine selected her as one of the 100 most significant people of the 20th century.

Dr. DeAngelo pointed out that it was the NAACP that was looking to put a face to put on the civil rights movement—a "perfect image to spark the Montgomery Bus Boycott. It was not originally planned that she be that face, but a progression of events brought her to the forefront."

Mrs. Parks, a woman of considerable humility, did not completely agree with the methods of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; on the other hand, she was a follower of Malcolm X.

Dr. DeAngelo also noted that twenty other women did the same thing that Rosa Parks did, but it was Mrs. Parks' "Non-violent shot heard round the world" on December 1, 1955, that was the springboard for the civil rights movement in America.

The details of the Montgomery

Bus Boycott are, according to Dr. DeAngelo, "fascinating to study."

In concluding his speech, Dr. DeAngelo noted that "Rosa Parks is a model of integrity and inspiration and it is endearing to study a person like her."

Reaction to the speech from the audience was very positive. "I thought that this speech was very interesting. I learned new things about Rosa Parks that I never had even heard of," said freshman Ashley Pucciarelli.

Professor Susan Straut-Collard was also moved by the speech. "I didn't know about Rosa Parks' relationship with Martin Luther King, Jr. or that she had a lot of disagreements with him," said Dr. Straut-Collard. "It was also interesting that Professor DeAngelo spoke about her being a follower of Malcolm X, considering that he and Martin Luther King had two different views," she added.

"Rosa Parks and the Politics of Image" brought a new awareness to the staff and student body of St. Joseph's College. Along with the art exhibit entitled "From Darkness to Light, Please Touch," it heralded an entire semester's events devoted to the topic of social justice in America.

Publications Office Issues Red Alert

Lack of Staff Jeopardizes Survival of Paper and Yearbook

By Christina Contessa

Is it possible that the fledgling publications program at St. Joseph's, which has already won two national awards, is in big trouble? In a word, YES.

Call it what you like: a staffing crisis, a manpower shortage—the bottom line is the same. Without an almost immediate influx of new staff members, both *The Spirit* and *Footprints* could be headed for a swift demise.

The mood in Room 607 St. Angela Hall is one of gloom and doom, and it starts at the top with Director of Student Publications Dr. Howard Weiner.

"I've tried to remain upbeat and I think we have tried just about everything that I know how to do to recruit new staff members, but nothing seems to work," said Dr. Weiner.

Those recruiting initiatives have included countless flyers posted on campus, numerous articles in *The Spirit*, face-to-face recruiting with virtually every student who walks into Room 607 (and there aren't many), appeals through English classes and running a journalism class during the fall semester.

Dr. Weiner even mailed personal letters to every new student who listed journalism as an interest or who said they were involved in their high school yearbooks or newspapers. All to no avail.

"A newspaper or yearbook staff must be self-perpetuating," said Dr. Weiner. "There must be new students coming up through the ranks to replace graduating seniors who are editors, photographers and reporters. Without those replacements, the publications cannot survive," he added.

Dr. Weiner likened a newspaper staff to a college sports team. "Each year, coaches have to rebuild their squads because they lose senior players. The difference is that in sports, you will have ten players vying for a single position, so there is always someone to play. Here, there haven't been students lining up to interview for editorial positions."

On the St. Joseph's campus, it seems to be a question of supply and demand. If there is no demand amongst members of the senior class for a yearbook, then the supply of those books—the books themselves—will simply dry up.

"If seniors don't think a yearbook is important to them, then they won't volunteer to help make it happen," said Dr. Weiner.

Is it too late to save *Footprints* and *The Spirit*? "I don't think it is too late, but the clock is definitely ticking. These publications are simply too big to be done with three or four students, and if no one comes forward, especially underclassmen who can provide continuity to a publication, then

I cannot guarantee their survival," said Dr. Weiner.

This year's edition of *Footprints* was produced without the benefit of having a sports editor, a senior section editor, a copy and layout editor and an art editor. There was only one photographer for both the yearbook and the newspaper.

"This puts an undue burden upon everyone else on the staff, what few members there are, and it makes their jobs that much more difficult," said Dr. Weiner.

No experience is needed to become an editor or staff member of either publication. It does, however, require a commitment of time to get the work done, and, as Dr. Weiner points out sardonically, "a willingness to cross the street from Tuohy Hall to St. Angela Hall—something that the bulk of the student body has been reluctant to do."

The Patchogue campus has already lost its yearbook and its newspaper has yet to publish a single edition during the current school year.

"I would hate to see that happen to us," said Dr. Weiner, "but if nothing changes soon, we might not be able to prevent it."

Anyone who has any interest in becoming a staff member of *The Spirit* or *Footprints* should come to the Publications Office in St. Angela Hall and see Dr. Weiner as soon as possible.



MUSIC NOTES

By John Castaldo

MUSIC ON THE MOVE AT ST. JOES

First and foremost, happy new year to all! Now it's time to talk about music!

I have every intention of making it a music column tradition to create a Top 10 list of songs for every edition of the paper (although not as detailed as the one that follows) that I feel every music aficionado should buy or download.

In addition to that list, I plan on discussing music at St. Joseph's College—what the students and faculty can expect to see on campus this semester.

Okay, here are some old songs for this month's Top 10:

1. "Hung Up"—Madonna

What Can I say? The Material Girl still has it. I love this song and I'm not embarrassed to say so. It's catchy, disco-esque beat makes you want to dance all night.

2. "Voglia di Dance All Night"—Eiffel 65

Speaking of dancing all night, Eiffel 65 of "Blue Da Ba Dee" fame released this track a few years ago in Europe. Recently, a close friend of mine had me listen to the song. Fantastic! Much Like Madonna's "Hung Up," this one will make you want to hit the dance floor. Note: the song is sung in Italian.

3. "Mockingbird sing"—Ryan and the Cardinals

From the album *Cold Roses* (2005), Ryan Adams is a country/rock performer. This song is the song that rocks me to sleep at night. Beautiful melody and lyrics and as sweet as a mockingbird's song, the title is very fitting.

4. "Cold Hard Bitch."—Jet

Sounds like every other rock song at first, but once it gets going, you can't help but sing along. "Cold hard bitch you're just a kiss on the lips...." You can sing the rest when you buy the album, *Get Born*.

5. "Cinnamon Girl"—Prince

Released on 2004's *Musicology* album, this song is by far Prince's best one in years. The guitar riff is very catchy and there's something about the drum line that can make even the most un-rhythmic person tap in time.

6. "Delirious Love"—Neil Diamond

Think of Neil Diamond and you think of this old man who hasn't released an album worth buying in years. That was until last year's album, *12 Songs*. Stripped

of all the overblown orchestrations of previous Neil Diamond albums, this one takes him back to his roots. Good songs dominated by guitar strums. "Delirious Love" is one of the best songs on the album, but I personally think that the one with backup vocals by Brian Wilson is better.

7. "King of the Road"—Rufus Wainwright and Teddy Thompson

A 2005 remake of the classic Roger Miller tune, Wainwright and Thompson make it less country and the harmonies are very pleasing to the ear.

8. "Ghettochip Malfunction Remix by 8-Bit"—Beck

A remix of Beck's song, "Hell Yes" that sounds like something out of an old Nintendo game. Good stuff!

9. "Mayreh"—John LaBarbera Big Band

Released on the album, *On the Wild Side*, the solos make the song. It swings. You can't put into words beauty like this.

10. "Misty"—Johnny Mathis

The most beautiful song ever! And this is the definitive version. Sarah Vaughan's comes close, but the ageless and always amazing Johnny Mathis beats her out. Listen to this track if you are head-over-heels for someone.

That's the list. Now onto music at St. Joseph's. Last semester was a big one for music at the college. Perhaps the biggest news is that members of the SJC Jazz Ensemble can now receive ½ credit per semester (for up to 4 semesters) for being part of the group.

The Jazz Ensemble had a highly successful fall term, raising big bucks at their December 6 concert. The real showstoppers of the night, however, were the members of the Dance Club, who presented their "Images in Motion" recital.

The Jazz Ensemble will once again be performing at the Dance Club's spring recital, as well as presenting their own spring concert.

The Choral Society had an equally strong fall term. Their "Broadway Night" was a smash. The success of the show was a reflection upon all the hard work by Director Lynn Portus and group president Andrea Rosado.

Next month I will talk a bit about the state of music education at St. Joe's and have more news and views on the music scene. See you then and let the good times roll!

**EASTER GREETINGS!
FROM THE STAFF
OF THE SPIRIT**

Alumni Spotlight: Janine Farraj

2006 Grad Making her Mark at St. Joe's

Staff Reporter

Talk about local girl makes good! Meet Janine Farraj, St. Joseph's College Class of 2005. Or should she be addressed by her actual title: Assistant to the Vice-President of Enrollment Management?

Janine's meteoric rise through the ranks at St. Joe's from student to staff member is a microcosmic version of what happens to many other successful college students. But instead of losing a graduate to the private sector, St. Joe's recognized talent and ability and kept it right in the Brooklyn fold.

Janine came to St. Joe's in September of 2001. She chose the school for its small student population and intimate setting.

Though the transition from high school to college was at first difficult, as it is in the case of so many other high school students, she soon settled in and began to attack her studies avidly.

Almost immediately, she was faced with a major decision in her college career. As a highly touted high school basketball player, known citywide for her defensive capabilities, she was pursued at St. Joe's and asked to join the Lady Bears.

"It was very difficult to say no to Coach Frank Carbone. On the one hand, I really wanted to continue playing basketball because I loved the game so much in high school, but on the other hand, I knew how much time it would take from my studies, and that had to come first, so I declined," she said.

Instead, she took a work-study position in the Office of Admissions where she first encountered Theresa La Rocca Meyer, then the Director of Admissions.

"Admissions was like a home away from home to me. I made some of my best friends in the world in admissions and came to know the people and the routines here very well."

Associate Director of Admissions Keith Outlaw jokingly referred to her as "The Goddess of Admissions" for the way she handled problems, answered questions of parents and students alike, and helped to

'sell' the school as she led tours of the campus.

By her junior year at St. Joe's, Janine was an important part of the extracurricular scene. She was the Junior Class Representative on the student government, the president of the Ambassadors Club, and one of the co-creators of Trivia Challenge.

Senior year saw even more involvement. She was personally responsible for the revival of publications at St. Joseph's, helping to bring Dr. Howard Weiner, Director of Student Publications, to the school after his retirement from the New York City Department of Education after 35 years of teaching.

But bringing publications back was only the first step. She served as editor-in-chief of *Footprints 2005* and assistant editor of *The Spirit*, both of which publications went on to win national prizes.

Additionally, she served as Senior Class Representative, planning senior activities throughout her final year in school.

Even before Janine earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Child Study, Theresa La Rocca Meyer recognized what she had and offered her a full time position as an Admissions Counselor.

"As a work study student in the office of Admissions, I saw in Janine the qualities that would make her an invaluable member of the staff," said Ms. La Rocca Meyer.

It was time for another major life decision for Janine. To teach—or not to teach?

"I have a great love for young children," she said, "but I also found it extremely rewarding to help teenagers find the right undergraduate program and to assist them in choosing their life's paths. It was a difficult choice, but I opted to stay at St. Joseph's where I knew I was happy," she added.

Initially, she did the work typically associated with admissions: she appeared at college fairs throughout the city, conducted campus tours, met one-on-one with students and parents who expressed interest in St. Joseph's College.

But when Theresa La Rocca Meyer was named Vice President for Enrollment Management, it was only natural that she take Janine along with her as her Assistant. "Janine is a team player and is always looking for the most efficient ways of getting the job accomplished," said Ms. La Rocca Meyer.

And just like that, Janine found herself at the next level of higher education administration.

"I was thrilled to take the new job and stay with Theresa," she said, "and I am just glad that she had enough confidence in me to want me to remain with her," she added.

The new position meant expanded duties for Janine. "I like the fact that there are so many different aspects to the job. It's never dull. In one day I can be working on five or six different projects," she added.

She might be attending meetings on the Patchogue campus to discuss an advertising campaign, or designing a brochure, writing letters to parents, planning a radio or television commercial—and that's just the morning's work!

"Seriously, there is something so creative about so many parts of the job," she says. "I like the graphic design part, I like using my writing skills, I enjoy meeting with professionals in the advertising field. In short, I love everything that I do here at St. Joe's," she added.

So what lies ahead for Janine Farraj? For one thing, marriage. Recently engaged to Abraham Sleem, a senior at Mt. Sinai medical school, she is in the process of planning her wedding while earning her Masters degree.

"I want a family, but I also want a career," she said. "I think I can make a valuable contribution to St. Joe's and be a part of a team that will really help the school through new and creative recruiting initiatives. I'm happy in my work and want to keep doing it as long as I can," she added.

"I see Janine really moving forward in the field of higher education," said Ms. La Rocca Meyer. And think of it: she's a home grown product of St. Joseph's College's Class of 2005.



Janine Farraj
Class of 2005

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

By John Castaldo

February 4, 1826

James Fennimore Cooper's novel, *The Last of the Mohicans*, is published.

February 8, 1915

The controversial film, *Birth of a Nation*, by D.W. Griffith, premieres in Los Angeles. The film portrays the Ku Klux Klan as saviors of the South, rescuing it from newly freed African-Americans.

February 22, 1942

President Franklin D. Roosevelt orders General Douglas MacArthur to leave the Philippines. American defense on the islands collapses and MacArthur and his family are taken to safety in Australia by PT boat.

February 23, 1955

SEATO, the Southeast Asian Treaty Organization, has its first meeting in which the United States pledges to defend the region from Communist aggression—leading in part to the Vietnam War.

February 7, 1964

The Beatles arrive in New York City, bringing with it "Beatlemania" and launching the British Invasion period of Rock and Roll music. The Beatles would dominate the charts for most of the 1960s.

February 26, 1993

The World Trade Center is bombed for the first time as terrorists set off a bomb in the parking garage, injuring 1000 people and killing 6.

New Global Studies Initiative Introduced at St. Joe's

Cultural Diversity Stressed in New Offerings

By Svetlana Medvedeva

Global Economy, Globalization, Global Alliances. All common words in a 21st century world. Add to those, Global Studies, a new and important program at St. Joseph's College.

In 2002, an Office of Global Studies was opened at the Patchogue campus of St. Joseph's College under the directorship of Professor Ralph Nofi. The express purpose of this office was to offer students the opportunity of broadening their education by being able to experience personally, different people and cultures.

Patchogue students have had the opportunity to take Global Studies courses that involve traveling abroad to observe teaching methods in international school settings.

A partnership was formed with Molloy College so that the resources of the two schools could be shared while at the same time offering even more students the opportunity to participate. Monetary savings could also be realized through the partnership, especially in the area of airline fares for foreign travel.

At the Brooklyn campus, Monika Wojciechowski is the Coordinator of International Student Services and her duties in that position are multi-faceted.

She deals with non-immigrant F1 student status individuals who are in America on Student Visas. She tracks registration enrollment for the federal government and assists these students in obtaining information about medical insurance, work permits, taxes and referral to other social service offices.

The Brooklyn campus of St. Joseph's is much more diverse in

terms of student population, and so Ms. Wojciechowski hopes to see the Global Studies program take root here as well as at Patchogue.

Even though the program is not currently at the Brooklyn campus, Brooklyn students can participate in the travel abroad program through the Patchogue campus.

One of the global events organized by Ms. Wojciechowski was 2005's International Week, a compendium of speakers and international cultural events that appealed to the diversity of the Brooklyn student body.

In 2005, the International Week program shifted to the Patchogue campus, but for 2006, she hopes to run the event at both Brooklyn and Patchogue.

Other global initiatives at Brooklyn have included the recent formation of the Globespotters Club, moderated by Dr. Sydelle Brooks and Mr. Mik Larson of ACES.

The 30 members of the club meet regularly to discuss issues pertaining to global awareness as well as creating a group which promotes friendships amongst students of diverse cultural backgrounds.

The club is open to all St. Joseph's students. "We would like to see American students come to the meetings along with students of other ethnic backgrounds," said Ms. Wojciechowski. "That would truly make it a global club," she added.

Another duty that Ms. Wojciechowski has is recruiting of even more international students for the college. "We recruit from immigrant communities and from current international students, hoping that

they will interest their friends or other family members in coming to St. Joseph's," she said.

During the 2006-07 academic year, various courses involving travel abroad will be offered. Art 103 will be offered in January with a trip to London and Paris. Philosophy 124 will be offered in March/April with a trip to the Greek isles. Art 103 will again be offered in May/June with a trip to Eastern Europe and in June, a Spanish language course will offer students a chance to visit Alicante, Spain.

Ms. Wojciechowski has extensive experience in the area of International Studies. Born in Poland, she received her B.A. in Teaching ESL from the University of Gdansk. She came to America in 1995 and earned another B.A. from Hunter College in Romance Languages.

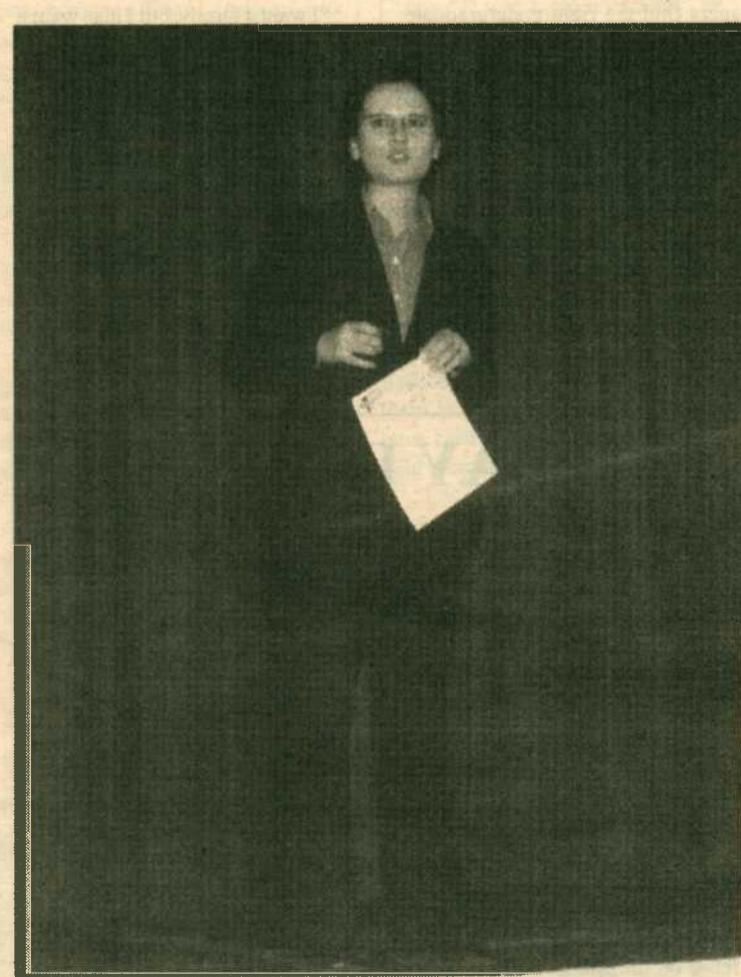
She became an American citizen in 2000 and earned a M.A. in Higher Education Administration from Baruch College.

In May of 2003, she came to St. Joseph's as the Assistant to the Director of Admissions for Adult and Professional Education.

As Coordinator of International Student Services, she is now based in the Office of Admissions and comes under the umbrella of Enrollment Management.

"We hope to create even more opportunities for foreign born students at St. Joseph's College. At the same time, we want all students to come together in a climate of mutual understanding and appreciation of what diversity means," she says.

The Global Studies program could be just the means to accomplish that end.



Monika Wojciechowski, International Student Services Coordinator



THE GAMESMAN

by ROBERT MARRIELLO

TAPPING INTO GAME TAP

For this month's column, I decided to try something new and original, well, semi-new and semi-original: Game Tap.

If you've been watching TV for the past couple of months, then you should have seen the commercials for it and how they were giving free two week trials to people. This was one of the first things that attracted me to it since I don't have all that much money.

After signing up, I found out that it costs \$15 a month, which is pretty cheap, since the service has over 300 games and updates about once a week. Also, if you end up not liking it and cancel before the two week trial ends, you don't get charged for the time you spent.

After spending time on Game Tap, I found that the selection of games they have is pretty extensive and is separated according to console, game type and the production company to facilitate easy searching.

Also, you can search by words in the title or by ones you choose to be your favorites.

The games range from some of the originals like Pac-Man and Pong to the PC version of both Splinter Cell games, and several of the Tomb Raider games.

Also, although they have a lot of games, Game Tap seems to be the resting place for many games that aren't around anymore and aren't owned by Nintendo. So although you'll probably find all your favorite old games, don't expect to find any of the Super Mario games.

The download time for the games usually is done in under fifteen seconds and is accompanied by small video clips of things such as commercials for games on the site and little entertainment clips such as game poetry and "A Day in the Life of Extras." There, you see what the extra lives are doing while you're focusing on the main game.

While many of the games download in fifteen seconds, most PC games will take longer the first time you play them since they need to download some components—not as many as you would in order to get the original games—but some visual components as well as a place to save information.

The games themselves are close to the original ones right off the console, and not just playing it on a computer, due to the fact that the

games are exact copies right down to the sounds and the reactions.

The controls generally focus around the arrow keys and the "V" button on console games, and for PC games, the controls are the same as they were on the originals.

If you don't know what the controls are, they show them in a small pop out screen when the game is done loading before you leave for it, and pop up when you press the "Esc" button to decide whether you want to leave the game or not.

All in all, the only real down part to this is that there are some games that don't like working with you, mostly anything with the virtual in it, along with the fact that you need a broadband connection to play this, since they require it, plus it helps to keep the fluidity of the games.

Aside from all this, Game Tap gets a 4 out of 5 rating from me since though it can be addictive to some people, there still are some slight problems.

Now for the Fact or Fake section of my column! If you remember, in my last article, I gave you three choices of a virtual property getting sold for \$100,000, a pirate getting foiled by a sonic blaster and Master Chief, a character in "Dead or Alive 4."

Because of an alteration in the space time continuum (a change in the facts), there is no actual fake, although at the time of me writing the column, it was that Master Chief being a character in DOA-4. But they decided to put him in after it was all over.

Anyway, this month's selection has been checked, and since this all has happened already, there's no chance for changes. Your choices for this month all involve Florida's infamous anti-gaming lawyer: (1) Jack Thompson buys stocks in "Take Two Interactive," the company behind the "Grand Theft Auto" series, (2) Jack Thompson takes his son to a local Best Buy and has him but "The Warriors" video game, or (3) An underage teenager makes threats on Jack Thompson, but he decides not to sue.

As last time, you will find out the answer to this one in my next column. So until then, goodbye and good gaming!

COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE

It's once again time to test how smart you are! Each month *The Spirit* offers a \$25 gift card to Best Buy for the first student to correctly answer ALL of the following questions. Remember—this is a test of how bright YOU are, not of how quickly you can Google answers!

1. There is only one mammal in the world capable of stinging. Name it.
2. What Olympic athlete was nicknamed "The Flying Finn?"
3. If you are a Cornhusker, which college do you attend?
4. This United States Naval vessel was the last battleship ever built. Name it.
5. Why is George Mason very important in United States history?
6. Who was the last Stuart monarch of Great Britain?
7. With whom did Shakespeare share rooms when he first came to London? Hint: he probably stole the plot for Hamlet from this roommate.
8. In 1939, though Clark Gable and Laurence Olivier were nominated for Best Actor, who won the Oscar that year?
9. This rock star was turned down for a role as one of the original

Monkees. He later went on to stardom in several other groups. Name him.

10. What are grupettos and mordants?
11. Wolfgang Mozart had a son—also named Wolfgang. Who was the younger Mozart's music teacher?
12. This musical, currently in revival on Broadway, was based upon the novel, *Seven and a Half Cents*. Name it.
13. What great jazz musician is associated with songs such as "One

O'Clock Jump" and "Jumpin' at the Woodside?"

14. What role links the three following actors: Charles Laughton, Trevor Howard, Anthony Hopkins?
15. What is schist?
16. A group of lions is called a pride. What do we call a group of crows?
17. Who was the artist who illustrated the dancing girls and the nightlife at the Moulin Rouge in Paris?

THE INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

What is your most important goal for second semester?



I want to prepare myself for student teaching which I will be doing next year.

—Christina Michalek



I want to continue my volunteer work at NYU and try to find a challenging new job in the health field.

—Antonella Ratio



My most important goal is simple: I am a senior and I want to survive thesis!

—Rose Ortiz



My goal is to survive this semester and do well in school while doing that.

—Xena Yehya



My goal is to improve my grades and find a balance between school, work and clubs and such.

—Amanda Gavagan



I want to improve in my sciences and learn how to organize my time a bit better.

—Schaeffer Charles



My most important goal is to get at least a 3.20 index in all of my classes.

—Gracia Gustave



I would like to set at a goal managing my time better to improve my grade point average.

—Eric Ortiz



I would like to achieve a higher GPA and get my driver's license this semester.

—Lindon Richards



I want to improve my Grade Point average and get ready for my internship.

—Fong Lin



It is my intention to get all A's this semester.

—Cassandra Seide

Freshmen Prepare to Select Majors

By John Castaldo

You can meet your Maker, you can meet the press, you can even meet the Mets—but meet your major?

For the members of the freshman class, that is exactly what they did on Monday, March 6 during common hour in the auditorium of Tuohy Hall as part of the Freshman Seminar Series.

“Meet Your Major” was an opportunity for students to gather information about the fourteen majors and ten concentration areas available at St. Joseph’s College.

Faculty members from each academic department as well as upper classmen majoring in each field were also on hand to explain some of the complexities of choosing a major and what the ramifications of such a choice could be.

Some students arrive at St. Joseph’s positive of what they want to major in. Others have a vague idea, but are not completely certain. Still others have no idea what they want to choose as a major—and indeed, are often unaware of what it means to major in a particular area. “Meet Your Major” was an opportunity to find out specifically what courses are required to fulfill a major. It also enabled freshmen to learn about pre-requisites and co-requisites they would need and what the sequences of courses in a major could potentially be.

Academic Dean S. Margaret Buckley had sent an email to all members of the freshman class prior to “Meet Your Major” in which she stated, “Freshman year is supposed to allow students to explore, and we do not push students to make premature choices. By the time you register for your sophomore year courses in April, however, you should be pretty clear about your major/concentration.”

The consensus of students who attended “Meet Your Major” was that it was a very positive experience. “It certainly was revealing,” said freshman Tara Vafiadou. “You get to see exactly how many courses you have to take to be a Child Study

major—something I really had no idea about until now,” she added.

As in most liberal arts colleges, students at St. Joseph’s get to ‘dabble’ in a variety of areas in hopes of sparking an interest in a certain academic discipline which will lead to a career or profession.

The problem comes when students delay too long in choosing that major. Then they fall victim to having to double and triple up in major courses, or worse—finding out that courses they need to take are not offered in a time slot during which they

are free, or a class conflicts with another required course.

Ultimately, this can delay students’ graduation, which is one reason why they are encouraged to select a major early in their college careers.

“Meet your Major/Concentration will help you move forward in the exploration and decision-making process,” said S. Margaret.

For the members of the freshman class, few decisions will impact upon their lives more than picking a major. “Meet Your Major” was one way of assisting in that choice.

Fashion Watch

By Euphemia Miscri

CHANGE OF SEASON? CHANGE YOUR STYLE

Welcome back to the spring semester which in the fashion world means new looks, new styles and new ways to get the most for our money.

When I surf the websites for the fashion industry or look at the catalogs and magazines that I receive, it never crosses my mind what to wear or how I will look.

Instead, the question that mostly sticks in my mind is, “Will I be able to afford all my needs and wants for the season?”

The variety of clothing and accessories that is out there is simply amazing, but seeing and affording are two different things, and we must always keep in mind budgetary considerations.

Stick to what you can afford, and don’t let the media talk you into doing otherwise!

Designers all over the United States and Europe have taken a deep breath for spring 2006, observes Leatrice Eiseman, Executive Director of Pantone Color Institute. “After several seasons of color, color, color, it’s time to relax a little and tone down the colors this season,” she said.

The colors aren’t exactly muted, nor are they pastels, neither are they bright. They are somewhere in between. This relaxation is most prevalent in the blues, neutrals and the classicism of blacks and whites.

Designers are still having fun with colors, but they are being less strident about it this season.

With more record temperatures predicted, this season is going to be one of extremes: blacks step out with white, neutrals with vivid primary shades.

Antique creams, brilliant whites, pearls, nudes and almond tones make up the creamy palette of the season, with white giving black a real run for its money this spring.

Antonia Short from the London fashion forecast for Spring 2006 commented that fashion this spring will be clean, simple and pure, and one can mix up the creamiest colors or strike fashion gold by be-

coming picture perfect in your very own black and white ensemble.

With almost every collection of the season featuring checkerboard colors, there’s never been more proof that opposites really do attract attention.

In New York City, Fashion Week Spring 2006 brought out designers from Alice Roi, Alvin Valley and Kimora Lee Simmons, just to name a few.

From sea to shining sea—the Mediterranean and Caribbean to the South Pacific and Atlantic—they collected shades ranging from aquatic blue tint to placid skyway and seaworthy deep ultramarine.

Smooth sailing typifies the calm and effortless attitude infusing the season.

Breezy and carefree hues like lily green, fresh viola, juicy melon and French vanilla—perhaps borrowed from a Matisse—take the edge off, while pink reenters the palette as cameo pink after a brief hiatus.

With the influence of the beach, the desert and natural organic materials, neutrals take a stand with a range of quiet shades represented by soft sand dollar and warm clove.

The harmonious combination of brown with blue-green continues to be strong this season as exemplified by the frequent pairing of clove with blue tint.

The purity of graphic black and white resonates widely, whether used in tandem or combined with nautical deep ultramarine for a crisp effect modulated by neutrals or accented with a color.

As 2006 heats up, colors will take a primary turn and make bolder, brighter statements. Black and white will still hold the limelight, but go ahead and throw a few splashes of red, yellow, blue and pink into the equation and you’ll have just the right dose of sunshine you’ll need to see the summer through.

So let’s head out and have some fun by intentionally making your fashion statement by calling for attention and attraction!

ST. JOSEPH'S SPORTS



THE SPORTING LIFE

BY MARK WILSON

SPRING IS IN THE AIR!

My name is Mark Wilson and I'm the new Sports Editor for *The Spirit* and I'm delighted to be here each edition, sharing my views on sports with you. So let's get right to it!

While Yankee fans are salivating over Johnny Damon's .290 career batting average and 281 career stolen bases at the top of their lineup, Sox fans are dialing 911. They've been robbed!

In a Ruthian move, the Yankees lured Damon away from the hated Boston Red Sox. This is a textbook 'lice' move: it leaves you scratching your head. Why would Damon, who won a World Series with his band of self-proclaimed idiots, pack up and leave Beantown for the Bronx?

He'll tell you he wants to win a championship, but his agent may be singing a different tune—all the way to the bank.

Since the birth of free agency in 1975, loyalty in baseball has been a mere memory. However, its diminishing presence has been especially prevalent during this past off-season in New York.

Gone are the days of Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle who spent their entire careers with the Yankees. Or more recently, Tony Gwynn, who spent his career with the San Diego Padres.

Speaking of the Padres, after spending seven seasons with the Mets, Mike Piazza recently signed a one year, \$2 million contract to be the starting catcher for the Padres.

It has been reported that Piazza wanted to stay with the Mets and the team didn't want him back. Although mere speculation, it seems as if loyalty took a backseat to victory in the eyes of the Mets.

I realize Piazza's stats were on the decline; he wasn't hitting his typical moon shots over the Pepsi Picnic Area any more. The few homers he was hitting were just making it over the wall. And maybe this season will prove his career won't be as fortunate as those baseballs and hit the wall.

However (and maybe it's the die-hard Mets fan in me talking), I would have much rather seen Piazza walk into the sunset on the East coast rather than the west.

That other New York team across the river is not innocent in this decline in fidelity either. Just

this past off-season, George Steinbrenner and the Yankees were ready to send beloved Bernie Williams, one of the game's real gentlemen, out to pasture.

Williams accepted a lesser role with the Yanks in order to stay with the team he spent his entire career with.

It's fair to say that Bernie Williams is among a dying breed in Major League baseball—one who values *team* over money.

Even during the season, Steinbrenner and company were ready to hand Joe Torre his pink slip. The Boss publicly criticized Torre during the 2005 season, questioning his in-game decisions.

He even decreed openly, "I'm not pleased with the manager..." Imagine! To say that about Joe Torre, who is well on his way to the pantheon of major league skippers.

This lack of allegiance is nothing new to Steinbrenner. Since he took over as principle owner in 1973, he has done little more than criticize his staff and team, regardless of who was at fault (including himself), and regardless of the team's record.

If Bernie Williams represents the dying breed of loyalty in baseball, George Steinbrenner represents the malicious corporate poacher.

Next in Steinbrenner's crosshairs was catcher Jorge Posada. After all those years of great play, it was rumored that the Yankees were willing to trade Posada and sign free agent catcher Benjie Molina or Ramon Hernandez to man the dish in the house that Ruth built.

What a pedigree that would be: Bill Dickey, Yogi Berra, Elston Howard, Thurman Munson, Jorge Posada—Ramon Hernandez?? Something doesn't fit here.

Heed my words, Yankees and Mets fans: the familiar faces you so rely on—the Derek Jeters or the David Wrights—may not be around forever.

At the drop of a hat, Wright could be manning the hot corner for some team out west. Or, dare I say it? Derek Jeter could be playing shortstop for.....

Okay gang, it's been a punt and a half being here this month! Can't wait till the next edition to bring you some more news and views in sport!

Play ball!

How 'bout Those Lady Bears

Basketballers Grab Conference Title in a Thriller

Staff Reporter

The folks at the College of Mount St. Vincent have to be getting pretty tired of seeing St. Joseph's athletes. First they lost to the Lady Bears in the HVAC championship game in volleyball. Then, they lost the conference basketball championship to the Lady Bears in a stunning come from behind victory.

The win for St. Joseph's marked the third time in five years that the Lady Bears have won the conference championship.

But this time, it wasn't easy. For the first half of the title game, the Lady Bears just couldn't get it in gear. The team lacked offensive rhythm and found itself in early foul trouble.

At one point, the Dolphins of St. Vincent's held a 7 point lead. They hit 19 of 22 from the free throw line and seemed to be in control of the game.

But then, the momentum shifted to St. Joseph's. Whittling away the MSV lead, they were able to cut it to a one point margin by halftime.

Junior All-American guard Lynette Reyes hit a 3 pointer to start the second half, and the Lady Bears announced that they were ready to make their run.

"While we have experienced such great success in the past few years, the HVAC championship game has been a nightmare for us of late," said Coach Frank Carbone.

He cited losses in the past two finals by two points to their very same opponents in the 2006 game: Mount Saint Vincent. In 2003, they lost by a single point in the final to SUNY Purchase.

But this time, the result was destined to be different. Riding an impressive 38 game winning streak in conference play, the Lady Bears pulled out all the stops for the final game against MSV.

With just 9 minutes left in the game, the Lady Bears broke open the game going on an 11-0 run. Clutch play by tournament MVP Michelle Softy iced the game for the Lady Bears.

Softy scored 10 of her game high 26 points during the deciding stretch of the game.

It was the culmination of a huge weekend for Softy who in the previous evening's game against Marymount College scored 27 points and went over the 1500 point mark for her college career.

Other standout performances during the game were by Annamarie Ciorciari (15 points) and Melissa Velez (12 points/4 assists) off the bench.

"We have worked so hard this season and have overcome so many obstacles to achieve this goal—we all really wanted this win very badly," said Softy.

Softy and Reyes have provided the 1-2 punch for the team throughout the season and in particular, in the championship victory.

"When Michelle and I both play well, our team is tough to beat," said Reyes, "but there's no doubt about it—we were all ready for this game—the entire team earned this prize," she added.

Next up for the Lady Bears will be their first ever appearance in the NCAA D3 Independent's Regional Tournament in Standish, Maine. Following that tourney, the team is expecting to be invited to their 6th consecutive USCAA National Championship Tournament in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

"Our real goal is the National Championship," said Annamarie Ciorciari.

With an 18-10 overall record and a 7-0 mark in conference play, that National Championship trophy could be a distinct possibility.

Softball Team Reloaded and Ready for 2006

By Christina Ament

Silence on the field and cheering in the crowd. All nine players are in their positions awaiting the possible arrival of the ball in their direction. The pitcher throws the heater—and SMACK! Bat contacts ball and the play begins!

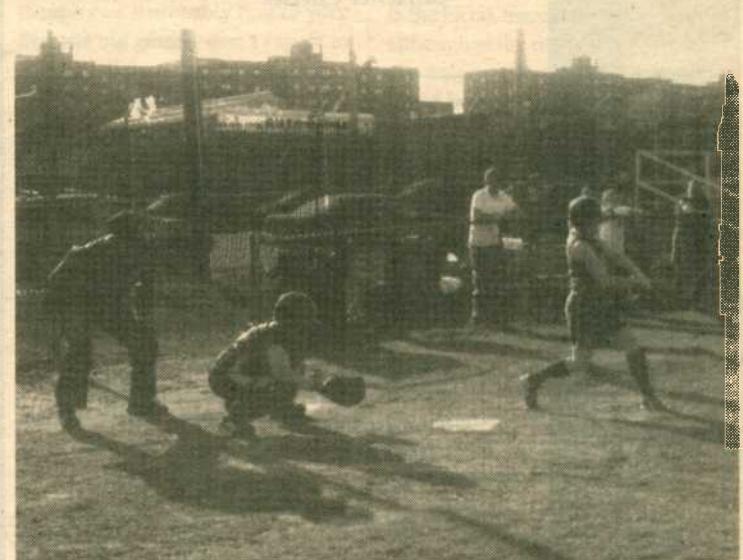
How many times that same scenario will be reenacted this year as the new St. Joe's softball season begins.

Last year's Lady Bears posted a record of 19-15, good enough for a third place finish in the HVAC, but St. Joe's Athletic Director and Coach Frank Carbone and his two assistants are hoping to improve upon that record this year.

First, the team will have to replace crucial players lost to graduation: Academic All Americans Kathleen O'Neill, Lisa Hourigan and Joanna Calabar, all of whom were founding members of the varsity softball team, and all of whom will be sorely missed on the field.

"These seniors were part of the founding group of softball at St. Joe's. While we will miss them, the girls who played with them benefited from their leadership," said Coach Frank Carbone.

Returning to the squad this sea-



Lady Bears look for run-scoring productivity in 2006

son will be All-American Lynette Reyes and All-Conference players Kristin Izzo and Carol Jeanne Kavanagh along with pitcher and shortstop Kristin Healey.

"I expect these players to be stars in this season," said Coach Carbone.

Eight veteran players will return for 2006 to go with the seven rookies on the fifteen member squad.

A big question mark for the team is the pitching. "Our goal is to win the conference title," said the coach, "but only time will tell if we have sufficient pitching to get us to the nationals," he added.

During spring break, the team will

travel to Fort Meyers, Florida where the Lady Bears will gain much-needed playing experience.

Avoiding injuries will be another crucial factor in the team's success during 2006. "Key injuries last season to Kaitlin O'Neill, Carol Jeanne Kavanagh and Lynette Reyes were things that we just couldn't overcome," said Coach Carbone.

As a young team, the coach also felt that the team was under inordinate pressure last year to win the conference championship. "This year we will have more fun," he said, "and I hope that we can get along as a team and represent the college well," he added.

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